

DEFLANT DRUGGISTS

WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT THE DOCTORS

**Talks with Some of the Prominent Pharmacists—
General Opposition to the Regulations Pro-
posed by the Physicians—Some Defi-
nite Action Expected Soon.**

The paper adopted by the medical association last Monday night in reference to the alleged practice among some druggists of prescribing for patients and of renewing prescriptions without the physician's order was a topic of general discussion among druggists yesterday. The pharmacists of the city are generally inclined to take issue with the physicians, and it is not improbable that some action will be taken.

action will soon be taken which will define clearly and positively just how the druggists stand. THE REPUBLICAN interviewed a number of prominent druggists yesterday, with the view of obtaining their opinions concerning the stand taken by the Medical Association.

W. S. THOMPSON

was first interviewed and said, laughingly, that while he had read the report and resolutions of the Medical Association, he had not yet made any preparations to conduct his business upon the plan they presented; that, as a representative of the College of Pharmacists, he had been present at a

conference with the association, and in response to the assertion that a number of druggists were in the habit of prescribing for and regularly treating cases, had asked that the names of such druggists should be furnished, and

that if they were members of the college the rules of that institution forbidding such conduct on their part would be equally applicable to the student. I was a disinterested person that the main issue with the association was in regard to the renewal of prescriptions; that the pharmacists had no right to refuse to require the renewal of a prescription; that the renewal of such a prescription would be dangerous or injurious was concerned; but in this the association were not satisfied, and claimed a right to have a renewal of any prescription upon the condition that the same should be renewed. This the druggists would not submit to under any consideration; and it, under the peculiar code of professional ethics by which the pharmacist is bound, would be a disgraceful effort was made to ruin or break up the business of any druggist the public would find enough testimony forthcoming to show that the business of the druggist was the controversy; that so far as the assertion that the business of druggists prescribing for patients was increasing went, he had been twenty-six years in the business and his experience was that such prospect was decidedly.

DR. W. C. MILBURN

was also called upon by THE REPUBLICAN, and, in response to inquiries, said that so far as his experience extended there was no general disinclination on the part of druggists to refuse to require the renewal of a prescription.

the parties were old customers; that the effort of the medical association to control a prescription after a patient had paid for the same was a step toward the regulation of the business of the druggist; that the medical association was not even if the druggists were to allow the doctors to step in and make rules for conducting the business.

MR. R. K. HELPHENSTINE
said he had reason to believe that many of our prominent physicians were not in favor of the proposed regulation. He said that he had been occupied with their own business to permit them to interfere with the legitimate business of the druggists. Many of our druggists, he said, are graduates of medicine as well as pharmacy, but under the proposed regulation they would be prevented from selling ten cents' worth of squills and paregoric unless the transaction was first approved by the physician. Mr. Helphenstine held that a positive proof of injury would be done by attempting to curtail the business of the druggist.

WHAT SUTER SAYS.

Mr. Ben Suter, at Gilman's drug store, did not think that there was any issue between the physicians and first-class druggists of the city, as there had always been harmony and a common understanding between them. The physicians aimed first at those druggists—and there were a number of them—who appeared in the dual character of physician and pharmacist. In certain localities this business was carried on to such an extent that the patients were obliged to go to the druggist for their medicine and the physicians' residents of that section were left almost without a practice. The proprietor of the drug store in such cases not only prescribed and obtained his fee for so doing, but in addition commended

the prescription and received pay for that. He did not presume that the physicians meant to direct their attention to so small a matter as a prescription. He said that he had a right reason for a sudden case of cramp or minor disorder of the body. The second subject treated was that of the renewal of prescriptions. A doctor prescribed for a patient a certain medicine, and then went to a druggist and have the prescription put up. This prescription would come back several times for renewal. The person that obtained it from the druggist would not be the same person who had the same ailment, and that individual would get the benefit of the doctor's prescription without the physician receiving anything for prescribing. There was very little to be made out of this, except from a money protection, were trying to check the practice. None of these grounds of complaint on the part of the Medical Society applied to a class-pharmaceutical establishment. — **LIKE IT.**

Mr. Gessell, corner of Tenth and New York avenue, on being asked what he thought of the doc-

He, however, replied that he did not estimate the value of his medicines at all. He said that he had no more, at first thought, did not like it. He thought the druggists generally did not, and favored a meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society and take measures accordingly.

A DRUG CLERK'S VIEWS.

A well-known drug clerk, in talking with a REPUBLICAN reporter last night, said: "I hear that some of the doctors intend, if they can't get the law, to compound their own medicines. I say to them, if they do it in the way they want to compound their own medicines and eat them around with them in saddle-lags or baggies as the doctors did seventy years ago, I will not give them any more of my patients will have my sincerest sympathy. The science of compounding medicines is little known among doctors, indeed, and it seems reasonable to suppose that the average physician knows less about medicines and how they are prepared than many of their patients. There will be no more of this kind of thing, I tell you—mixing medicines. Mind what I tell you, and the poor patients will be the sufferers. Of course I know a great many physicians, and I know that they are not all fools, but I am down in this city who know how to put up a prescription, though they know how to write them. Indeed, medical men are not all uneducated. I have seen a number of them who are well-informed."

that but little attention is paid to it. This should not be, for in all of the colleges in Europe no one can graduate without passing analyses. He can put up a prescription. The only doctors I know who can prepare medicine properly are those who served a regular apprenticeship in a drug-store, and there are not many of these in this country. The physicians of the past twenty years who have done this. There are plenty of house-shoers who can't make a horse shoe, likewise there are any number of doctors who can't write for a pill that they can't make the same pill."

PHYSICIANS OPPOSED TO IT.

A quiet inquiry among the leading medical physicians developed the further fact that they generally deprecated the action of the Medical Association as, to say the least, very unwise and liable to provoke much sharp criticism.

TELEGRAPHIC TWISTINGS.

MRS. MAGDALEN MILLER, aged sixty-one, starved herself to death in New York. She ceased breathing yesterday.

THE FIVE-YEAR protection of Delaware pilots, which passed the Delaware house Tuesday, passed the senate yesterday without a dissenting vote. The bill also passed the senate yesterday and is now a law.

THE graves of confederate soldiers were

decorated yesterday in New Orleans. The Grand Army of the Republic contributed floral offerings. This evening the Association of the Army of the Tennessee have a reunion at Masonic Hall.

JUDITH FERRAN, sixty-five years old, and an employee of Harper & Bros., New York, for the past thirty-five years, was instantly killed yesterday morning by her dress being caught in the machinery of the establishment. She was highly respected.

—The Government receipts yesterday were \$253,632.26 from internal revenue; customs, \$490,475.29.